

1 WHEREAS, Currently, the State correctional system holds
2 around 49,000 inmates, however the facilities that are open are
3 designed to hold around 32,000 inmates; with the State's
4 prisons being so drastically over-crowded, staff and inmate
5 safety has again become a major cause of concern; and

6 WHEREAS, The current levels of inmates in the overly
7 crowded State correctional system has caused major concern for
8 the safety of staff working in the prisons; at Pickneyville
9 Correctional Center on September 25, 2013, inmate Rodolfo Rosas
10 attacked 3 male guards and one female guard; they were taken to
11 an area hospital and treated for various injuries, including a
12 broken nose; and

13 WHEREAS, Over-crowded correctional facilities are not just
14 a safety problem for staff but also create a dangerous
15 atmosphere for other inmates; since the closure of the Tamms
16 Correctional Center, other facilities having to deal with the
17 over-population issue have resorted to moving hundreds of
18 inmates into a gymnasium as cells have become too crowded; and

19 WHEREAS, Incidents of violent fights between inmates have
20 increased since the closure of the Tamms Correctional Center
21 because the current correctional system is having difficulty
22 handling the over-populated prisons; and

1 WHEREAS, If the State of Illinois would utilize the former
2 Tamms Correctional Center it could help increase safety inside
3 the State's correctional centers for both the staff and
4 inmates; the space inside the former Tamms Correctional Center
5 would also greatly help to reduce the strain over the State's
6 over-populated correctional centers; and

7 WHEREAS, The former Tamms Correctional Center should be
8 refitted and reopened in order to ensure the best outcomes for
9 inmates and staff in helping to keep people safe and in helping
10 aid in rehabilitation; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
12 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
13 urge Governor Rauner to refit and reopen the former Tamms
14 Correctional Center to help control the over-crowding in the
15 State's correction system and to ensure the safety of
16 correctional staff and inmates; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 delivered to Governor Rauner and the Director of Corrections."